

Appln. No. 10/719,245
Amendment dated March 9, 2006
Reply to Office Action mailed February 9, 2006

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims (deleted text being struck through and added text being underlined):

1. (Previously presented) A sliding tarp assembly comprising:
a sheet of material; and
a plurality of sliding members coupled to and extending from a face of said sheet of material for forming a grid of sliding members whereby said sheet of material is adapted for facilitating sliding an item placed on said sheet of material on a support surface when said sliding members are positioned to contact the support surface.
2. (Original) The sliding tarp assembly of claim 1 wherein said plurality of sliding members includes a first set of sliding members and a second set of sliding members, each sliding member of said first set of sliding members being larger than each sliding member of said second set of sliding members.
3. (Original) The sliding tarp assembly of claim 2 wherein said first set of sliding members are positioned in a central portion of said face of said sheet of material.
4. (Original) The sliding tarp assembly of claim 2 wherein said second set of sliding members are positioned on outer portions of said face of said sheet of material.
5. (Original) The sliding tarp assembly of claim 1, further comprising:
a plurality of straps coupled to said sheet of material for facilitating securing of said sheet of material around an item positioned on said sheet of material.

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6. (Original) The sliding tarp assembly of claim 5 wherein each of said plurality of straps is coupled to a perimeter edge of said sheet of material.

7. (Original) The sliding tarp assembly of claim 1, further comprising:

said sheet of material having a plurality of cutout portions, said cutout portions being positioned proximate to a perimeter edge of said sheet of material for forming a plurality of handles to facilitate manipulation of said sheet of material.

8. (Previously presented) The sliding tarp assembly of claim 1, further comprising:

said sheet of material comprising a plurality of handles for being gripped by the user facilitating manipulation of said sheet of material.

9. (Original) The sliding tarp assembly of claim 8 wherein said handles are integrally formed in said sheet of material by a plurality of cutouts in said sheet of material.

10. (Original) The sliding tarp assembly of claim 1 wherein each sliding member has a convex outer surface for facilitating sliding of said sliding members on the support surface.

11. (Original) The sliding tarp assembly of claim 1 wherein each of said sliding members has a coating for reducing friction between said sliding members and the support surface.

12. (Original) The sliding tarp assembly of claim 11 wherein said coating is tetrafluoroethylene.

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13. (Withdrawn) The sliding tarp assembly of claim 1 wherein said sheet of material has a generally rectangular main portion and an extension portion for facilitating grasping of said sheet of material while said main portion remains positioned adjacent the support surface.

14. (Withdrawn) The sliding tarp assembly of claim 13 wherein said extension portion has a rounded outer edge to permit said main portion to be pulled at a distance from said main portion to inhibit said main portion impacting feet of the user.

15. (Withdrawn) The sliding tarp assembly of claim 14, further comprising:

said extension portion comprising at least one handle for being gripped by the user to facilitate sliding of said extension portion.

16. (Withdrawn) The sliding tarp assembly of claim ~~13~~ 15, further comprising:

said at least one handle integrally formed in said extension portion, said handle being aligned with a center of said outer edge of said extension portion.

17. (Withdrawn) The sliding tarp assembly of claim 13, further comprising:

a pair of handles integrally formed in said extension portion, said handles being symmetrically aligned on opposite sides of a center of said outer edge of said extension portion.

18. (Previously presented) A sliding tarp assembly comprising:
a sheet of material;

a plurality of sliding members coupled to and extending from a face of said sheet of material for forming a grid of sliding members whereby said sheet of material is adapted for facilitating sliding an item placed on said sheet of material on a support surface when said sliding members are

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positioned to contact the support surface;

said plurality of sliding members including a first set of sliding members and a second set of sliding members, each sliding member of said first set of sliding members being larger than each sliding member of said second set of sliding members;

said first set of sliding members being positioned in a central portion of said face of said sheet of material;

said second set of sliding members being positioned on outer portions of said face of said sheet of material;

a plurality of straps being coupled to said sheet of material for facilitating securing of said sheet of material around an item positioned on said sheet of material;

each of said plurality of straps being coupled to a perimeter edge of said sheet of material;

said sheet of material having a plurality of cutout portions, said cutout portions being positioned proximate to a perimeter edge of said sheet of material for forming a plurality of handles to facilitate manipulation of said sheet of material;

each sliding member having a convex outer surface for facilitating sliding of said sliding members on the support surface; and

each of said sliding members having a coating for reducing friction between said sliding members and the support surface, said coating being tetrafluoroethylene.